

**ABSTRACT**

The present invention is for novel compositions and methods for treating cancer, particularly, for treating cancer in mammals and more particularly in humans. The therapeutic compositions of the present invention include liposome entrapped 5 irinotecan in which the liposome can contain any of a variety of neutral or charged liposome-forming compounds and cardiolipin. The liposomes of the present invention can be either multilamellar vesicles and unilamellar vesicles, as desired.